

AMENDMENTS

In The Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A voice-actuated machine body control apparatus for a construction machine, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising:

speech recognition means ~~(1a)~~ capable of speech-recognizing a voice command representative of an instruction by voice regarding a movement of a machine body ~~(80)~~;

machine body control means ~~(1e)~~ capable of controlling the movement of said machine body ~~(80)~~ based on a result of the recognition by said speech recognition means ~~(1a)~~;

obstacle recognition means ~~(1b)~~ capable of detecting the presence of an object outside said machine body ~~(80)~~ which may ~~possibly make~~ be an obstacle to the movement of the machine body ~~(80)~~; and

avoidance means ~~(1e)~~ capable of inhibiting, when the presence of an object outside of said machine body ~~(80)~~ is detected by said obstacle recognition means ~~(1b)~~, the machine body movement ~~in accordance with the voice command preferentially to the control~~ by said machine body control means ~~(1e)~~ thereby to avoid an inappropriate movement of said machine body ~~(80)~~,

wherein said speech recognition means discriminates whether or not the voice command is issued by a registered operator, and

when the speech recognition means discriminates that the voice command is issued by the registered operator, said machine body control means permits the machine body movement, and

when the speech recognition means discriminates that the voice command is not issued by the registered operator, said machine body control means inhibits the machine body movement.

2. (Currently Amended) The voice-actuated machine body control apparatus for a construction machine as set forth in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said avoidance means ~~(1e)~~ further ~~includes~~ comprises:

priority degree determination means ~~(1f)~~ for determining a degree of priority regarding the inhibition of the machine body movement in accordance with the voice command[[,]] ; and

an optimum machine body movement is performed using the degree of priority determined by said priority degree determination means (1f).

3. (Currently Amended) The voice-actuated machine body control apparatus for a construction machine as set forth in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said priority degree determination means (1f)

determines the degree of priority such that the highest degree of priority is provided to a parameter regarding a person.

4. (Currently Amended) The voice-actuated machine body control apparatus for a construction machine as set forth in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said priority degree determination means (1f)

determines the degree of priority such that, where the highest degree of priority is assured, a next highest degree of priority is provided to a parameter regarding said machine body (80).

5. (Currently Amended) The voice-actuated machine body control apparatus for a construction machine as set forth in claim 3, ~~characterized in that it further comprises~~ comprising speech notification means (1d, 62) capable of notifying an operator by voice of a situation of avoidance by the machine body movement when the optimum machine body movement is performed.

6. (Currently Amended) The voice-actuated machine body control apparatus for a construction machine as set forth in claim 4, ~~construction machine as set forth in claim 3,~~ ~~characterized in that it further comprises~~ comprising speech notification means (1d, 62) capable of notifying an operator by voice of a situation of avoidance by the machine body movement when the optimum machine body movement is performed.